



HOPWA 2000

Competition Overview

The Super Notice of Funding Availability for HUD's Housing, Community Development and Empowerment Programs (SuperNOFA) for \$2.4 billion, published 2-24-00, includes funds for the 2000 Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) competition, as follows.

Applications: The HOPWA application kit and the SuperNOFA User Guide are available from the SuperNOFA Information Center 1-800-HUD-8929 or 1-800-483-2209 TTY and this information is on the internet at www.hud.gov/fundsavl.html. Electronic fillable forms are available on the HOPWA homepage at: www.hud.gov/cpd/hopwahom.html.

Due Date: Midnight, Tuesday, May 23, 2000. Applicants should send their original application to HUD Headquarters (Room 7251) and two copies to the area CPD office (hand delivery or mail).

Funds: \$23.02 million

Grant Size: The maximum is \$1.2 million for program activities. Additional administrative costs (up to 3 percent for grantees and up to 7 percent for sponsors) and funds to collect data on project outcomes (up to \$50,000) are also available.

HOPWA National Performance Goal: Proposed activities must increase the amount of housing assistance and related supportive services to low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families to enable them to achieve housing stability and access to health-care and related supportive services.

Activities: Housing needs in the area must be addressed with activities that are consistent with the jurisdiction's consolidated plan, including: the construction, acquisition, rehabilitation and operation of community residences, single room occupancy (SRO) dwellings, and short-term facilities; the use of tenant and project-based rental assistance; short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments to prevent homelessness; supportive services; housing information, including fair housing counseling; and program development activities such as resource identification to establish coordinate and develop housing assistance resources and technical assistance in establishing and operating a community residence; and other activities that are proposed by applicants and approved by HUD, although HUD will not approve

activities that depend on future decisions to use funds, e.g. use of RFPs.

Eligibility: Eligible persons are low-income persons (at 80% of median income) living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

Two Grant Categories:

- (1) **Special Projects of National Significance** which are model or innovative projects for housing and related services submitted by states, local governments or non-profit organizations, and
- (2) **Projects that are part of Long-Term Comprehensive Strategies** for providing housing and related services submitted by states and local governments for areas that do not qualify for HOPWA 2000 formula allocations (a non-profit organization cannot apply directly for this category, but may serve as a project sponsor).

Rating and Selection. All applications will be reviewed for five common criteria for a total 100 points and 2 bonus points will be awarded for:

- 1) eligible activities/projects that are proposed to be located in federally designated Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, Urban Enhanced Enterprise Communities, or Strategic Planning Communities and serve the residents of these federally designated areas, and are certified to be consistent with the strategic plan, and
- 2) projects under the Dallas Court order.

Underserved Populations: A new focus in this year's competition will be the selection of Special Projects of National Significance that provide responses to the needs of underserved populations, such as racial and ethnic minority populations, women and persons living in rural areas or others, as described and documented in your proposal. The NOFA provides that HUD will set aside up to 40 percent of the funds allocated to the SPNS category for projects that address this purpose to ensure that many of these model programs are funded. This effort is further described in the NOFA under Section III (D) Targeting Resources to Underserved Populations.

HOPWA Technical Assistance. Projects may include a limited amount for technical assistance activities not to exceed 20 percent of the total activity costs. The SuperNOFA also makes up to

\$1,740,000 available for HOPWA technical assistance grants under a separate competition, see the Community Development Technical Assistance section.

Five common criteria (100 points maximum):

Capacity of the Applicant and Project Sponsors and Relevant Organizational Experience (20 points). HUD will consider the ability to develop and operate the program, past experience on HIV/AIDS and programs similar to the proposal, experience in monitoring and evaluating programs and disseminating information, and prior performance with HUD.

Need/Extent of the Problem (20 points). HUD will award up to 5 points based on the number of reported cases of AIDS and per capita incidence in the service area as reported by CDC; 5 points for the description of urgent and unmet need. If an underserved population is designated, this must be documented in the need section; 5 points for SPNS applications that serve non-formula areas as well as for successful projects that seek to renew prior HOPWA competitive grants. After rating the other criteria, the remaining 5 points will be awarded to the highest rated application in each state and the highest rated application with nation-wide activities to help achieve greater geographic diversity in selections.

Soundness of Approach: Responsiveness and Model Qualities (40 points). Up to 20 points are awarded for responsiveness to the needs of clients. HUD will consider how well your project plan responds to the unmet needs of the target population including the specific needs that you identified under the Need Criterion with specific goals and objectives for providing housing and related supportive services. Applicant goals should address the projected number of persons to be served, project number of housing units to be provided, the organizations that will provide housing, and your plans for accomplishing these goals and objectives with housing and supportive services.

Up to 20 points will be awarded for model qualities for the service delivery model in offering or expanding housing opportunities. Applicants must set goals to be achieved and provide a plan to integrate housing, supportive services, program operations and management oversight to ensure effective program delivery. Proposals must demonstrate that housing needs are being addressed, the connection of emergency and transitional programs to permanent housing, accessibility of units, and the ability of projects to remain viable and sustaining. Applicants must offer a plan that evidences a permanent housing arrangement. The **descriptive budget** should outline

the amounts allocated to sponsors and line items, as well as how specific line items match with the goals and objectives in your project.

Extent of leveraged public and private resources for the project (10 points). HUD will consider the value of other public or private resources that are committed to the project at the time of application, including time committed by volunteers, and the highest ratings for leveraging that matches or exceeds requested amounts. Standard commitment letters are provided in the NOFA and application kit.

Comprehensiveness and Coordination (10 points). HUD will evaluate how well the applicant coordinated the proposal with other organizations, consulted with prospective clients, participates or in the community's Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance planning process (if homeless persons are to be served) and their Consolidated Planning process to address needs in holistic approaches with linkages with other activities.

Performance Benchmarks: Funds may be used over three years. Projects are expected to begin program operations within one year of their selection, except those that involve acquisition or leasing of a site are required to gain site control within one year of their selection and, if undertaking rehabilitation or new construction to begin the activity within eighteen months and to complete the activity within three years of that date. Failure to meet a benchmark or submit a startup report within six months of selection may result in the cancellation or withdrawal of the award.

SuperNOFA Broadcasts: Two satellite broadcasts will be offered to explain and answer questions on the SuperNOFA. These broadcasts will be held on March 29th and April 18th (1-4pm EST) and can be accessed from www.hud.gov via live webcast.

Other Funding Resources: Information on other HUD programs and the 2000 HOPWA formula allocations of \$207.2 million to 67 eligible cities and 34 States is found at: <http://www.hud.gov/cpd/cpdalloc.html>.

For More Information: Call the Community Connections Information Center at 1-800-998-9999 or 1-800-483-2209 (TTY). Web: www.comcon.org to answer your questions on the 2000 Competition.